

## PROCLAMATION FAIR HOUSING MONTH APRIL 2008

WHEREAS, April 11, 2008 marks the 40th anniversary of the signing of the federal Fair Housing Act by President Lyndon B. Johnson; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota law has prohibited discrimination in housing since 1983, and North Dakota passed the 1999 Housing Discrimination Act authorizing the Department of Labor to investigate complaints alleging discriminatory housing practicing; and

WHEREAS, equal opportunity for all—regardless of race, color, age, religion, sex, disability, familial status, national origin, marital or public assistance status—is a fundamental goal of our state law; and

WHEREAS, access to housing of an individual's choice is an important quality-of-life issue, because where we live determines where our children go to school, where our friends are and what cultural benefits we enjoy; and

WHEREAS, North Dakota has made great advancements toward equality in housing practices since the enactment of the Fair Housing Act and the state will continue to strive to eliminate discrimination and provide the opportunity to live in safe and affordable housing; and

**NOW, THEREFORE**, as Governor of the State of North Dakota, I do hereby proclaim April 2008, **FAIR HOUSING MONTH** in the State of North Dakota.

John Hoeven

ATTEST:

Alvin A. Jaeger

Secretary of State

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